

A NEW CRYPTOPIID GENUS, WITH KEY TO THE GENERA  
KNOWN TO OCCUR IN NORTH AMERICA  
INCLUDING MEXICO  
(CHILOPODA: SCOLOPENDROMORPHA: CRYPTOPIIDAE)

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*Abstract.*—A new Mexican Cryptopid genus and species, *Ectonocryptops kraepelini*, are presented with a key to all Cryptopid genera known to occur in North America including Mexico.

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Of the chilopod orders, the Scolopendromorpha is systematically the best developed and most stable. Thanks to the commendable efforts of Kraepelin (1902) and later Attems (1930), a comprehensive higher categorical system that is at once readily workable and for the most part reflective of phylogeny has gained virtually uncontested wide acceptance. Even the great majority of the genera are well-known and easily identifiable. Since the order, in species a large one, is not characterized by generic plenitude, the discovery of a new genus must be an uncommon event. That the new taxon most closely resembles the bizarre *Newportia*, a remote and unique entity in many ways, lends enhanced significance to it.

*Ectonocryptops* Crabill, new genus

*Ectonocryptops*, a new genus, unlike most cryptopid genera but like most of the species of *Newportia*, has a distinctly bipartite tarsus on each of legs 1 through 23. Unlike those of nearly all other known genera, the tibiae and tarsi of *Ectonocryptops* are wholly without spurs. *Newportia* and *Ectonocryptops* are very unlike other genera in a number of ways, perhaps most manifestly in lacking an ultimate pedal pretarsus and in the extraordinary departure of their ultimate second tarsi from the norm.

They may be distinguished from each other most readily as follows. In *Newportia*: (1) Ultimate second tarsus long, thin, sometimes nearly whiplike, divided into numerous tarsomeres or pseudosegments and (2) tibial spurs (or a tibial spur) and a tarsal spur always present on some legs, usually on most. In *Ectonocryptops*: (1) Ultimate second tarsus short, subclavate, entire undivided and (2) tibial and tarsal spurs entirely absent.

Type-species: *Ectonocryptops kraepelini*, new species. Monobasic.

*Ectonocryptops kraepelini* Crabill, new species

Holotype: ♀, Mexico, State of Colima, 2 mi south of Tonila; August 28, 1965; W. R. Gertsch, leg.; in the collection of The American Museum of Natural History, New York.<sup>1</sup>

General: Body length, 11 mm. Color, sordid yellow throughout. *Antennae*. Length slightly longer than  $2\times$  the head length. Articles, 17 in number; those more proximal but slightly longer than wide, the more distal ones as long as wide, submoniliform in shape. Setae of 1st 2 distinctly longer and more robust than those of other articles. *Cephalic Plate*. Longer than wide (1.2:1). Sides evenly excurved. With a vague frontal suture. Paramedian sutures wholly absent. Rear margin overhanging first tergite. Ocular areas present but poorly defined. *Clypeus*. Submedial and anterior positions each with a pair of long setae; prelabral position with a straight line of 9 stout setae; clypeus otherwise essentially glabrous. *Labrum*. With a single medial tooth; sidepieces not incised to form lateral teeth. *First Maxillae*. Medial lobes short, not exceeding 2nd article of telopodite; coxosternum medially cleft, lateral sutures absent; telopodites large, extending slightly beyond labral anterior margin. *Second Maxillae*. Coxosternum medially diastemate, not divided. Telopodite long, slightly exceeding anterior head margin; second article distodorsally with a single stout spine; 3rd article distodorsally with a fan of long hyaline filaments; pretarsus unguiform, its ventral edge smooth and undivided, its dorsal edge pectinate. *Prehensors*. Flexed, not exceeding anterior head margin. Mesal armature entirely absent. *Prosternum*. Anterior margin slightly bowed forward, without dental plates or other armature. *Spiracles*. Present on pedal segments 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22. *Terga*. First tergum with prominent ring suture; posterior to it with 2 paramedian sulci whose ends converge and meet anterocentrally. Paramedian sulci on 2nd through 22nd terga; vague oblique and lateral sulci present on 2 or 3 through 22. *Sterna*. All exceptionally long; subtriangular, their short bases anterior; endosternites long, projecting beneath succeeding sterna, without demarcating sutures. Without longitudinal or transverse apodemes; each with a shallow, vague, midlongitudinal depression. Sparsely setose. *Legs*. With 23 pairs. All notably long and rather slender. Tarsi 1 through 23 each distinctly bipartite. Pretarsal parungues equal and robust,  $\frac{1}{2}$  as long as their claws. Spines and spurs entirely absent. *Ultimate Pedal Segment*. As long as the precedent. Tergum slightly wider than long; rear margin rounded posteriorly; without posteroectal spines. Coxopleuron with about 20 small pores, these restricted to ventral  $\frac{2}{3}$  and extending for full length. Ventroposteriorly with a long robust acuminate process, tipped with 1 spine and 2 adjacent setae. Sterna greatest width slightly greater than greatest length; sides slightly convergent, straight; rear margin truncating leg. Prefemur slightly shorter than femur; the former ventrofemur slightly shorter than femur; the former ventromedially with 3 equidistant and equal robust spines; the latter with 2; otherwise both clothed with delicate to stout setae. Tibia the longest article; distinctly inflated,

the distomedial sector expanded to form a prominent non-setose lobe; medial surface densely porous, internally densely glandular. First tarsus bulbous, ventromedially excavate, with a low ventroposterior lobe. Second tarsus subclavate; undivided; without pretarsus of any kind.

**Etymology:** This species is named in honor of Professor Karl Kraepelin, first great monographer of the Scolopendromorpha and past Director of the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum of Hamburg.

#### North American and Mexican Cryptopid Genera

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|--|---|
| 1. With 21 pairs of legs and pedal segments  | 2   |
| - With 23 pairs of legs and pedal segments ( <i>Scolopocryptopinae</i> )   | 3   |
| 2. Anterior margin of prosternum with a pair of elongate, coarsely-toothed plates. Cephalic plate with prominent eyespots in ocellar positions. Ultimate pedal segment conspicuously elongate. Ultimate legs extremely heavy and robust ( <i>Theatopinae</i> ) |   |
|  | <i>Theatops</i> Newport                     |
| - Anterior margin of prosternum without such toothed plates. Cephalic plate without eyespots. Ultimate pedal segment of normal proportions. Ultimate legs only slightly heavier than penults ( <i>Cryptopinae</i> )  | 8   |
| 3. Seventh pedal segment with a pair of spiracles  | 6   |
| - Seventh pedal segment without a pair of spiracles  | 4   |
| 4. Prosternal anterior margin with a pair of low, dark, heavily sclerotized ridges. Trochanteroprefemur mesodistally with a prominent spinous process  |   |
|  | <i>Scolopocryptops</i> Newport <sup>2</sup> |
| - Prosternal anterior margin unadorned, without dark, heavily sclerotized ridges. Trochanteroprefemur without a distomesal spinous process   | 5   |
| 5. Legs 1-21 each without trace of intertarsal division. Sternital transverse sulci usually apparent; submarginal sulci typically pronounced   |   |
|  | <i>Kethops</i> Chamberlin                   |
| - Legs 1-21 each with a division between the 1st and 2nd tarsi. Sternital transverse sulci absent; submarginal sulci absent  |   |
|  | <i>Thalkethops</i> Crabill                  |
| 6. Second tarsus of ultimate leg divided into many segments or pseudo-segments   |   |
|  | <i>Newportia</i> Gervais                    |
| - Second tarsus of ultimate leg entire, without trace of subdivision   | 7   |
| 7. Second tarsus of ultimate leg with a prominent unguiform pretarsus; tibia neither swollen nor densely glandular; 1st tarsus not bulbous   |   |
|  | <i>Dinocryptops</i> Crabill <sup>3</sup>    |
| - Second tarsus of ultimate leg without any pretarsus; tibia swollen and densely glandular; 1st tarsus bulbous   |   |
|  | <i>Ectonocryptops</i> , n. gen.             |

